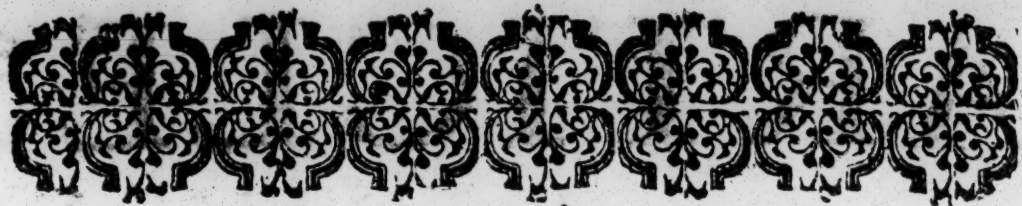


ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF VVITHIN THE DIO-

26
cesse of LINCOLNE in the generall
and trienniall Visitation of the right reue-
rend Father in God Iohn by Gods pro-
vidence, Bishop of *Lincolne*, Lord
Keeper of the great Seale
of ENGLAND.



Imprinted at LONDON.
1625.

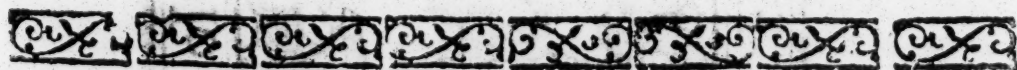


The Aduertifement.

THe Minister and Churchwardens are to call vnto them the Neighbours of the Parish, and out of them to make choice of two of the discreetest parishioners to be Side-men, and they all together are to reade ouer these Articles diuers times.

Then, after they haue duely considered of them, they are to write an answer or presentment vnto euery Article particularly, and truely, according to their Consciences.

Lastly, they are all of them to bring their presentments to the Visitation, and there the Churchwardens and Side-men vpon their Oathes are to deliuer them vp vnder their hands to the Lord Bishops Visitors. The Minister is to put them in minde of such things as he knoweth needfull to be presented, and in case they neglect, to giue notice to the Visitors.



The Oath ministred to the Churchwardens and Sworne-men.

You shall duely enquire and true presentment make of all offences or defaults mentioned in the Articles giuen you in charge, or otherwise against the Ecclesiasticall Lawes, together with the names of the seuerall Offenders therein.

So helpe you God.



Articles to be enquired of in the Diocesse of LINCOLNE.



First, whether is your Church, or Chapell, and the Chancell sufficiently in repaire of the wals, roose, seats, pavement, and windowes; also the Parsonage or Vicarage house: And whether is the Church-yard decently fenced with Railes, Pales, or Wals,

Church.
Chancell.
Church-yard.

and by whose default are any of these in decay, either Minister, lay-person, Appropiator, Farmer, or Parishioner: Set downe the names of those in whose time, or by whose meanes the said decayes were made, or suffered to be made.

2. Who is the Patron of your Parsonage or Vicarage as you know or haue credibly heard: What glebe Land is there belonging to the Parsonage or Vicarage: Enquire of your Minister, and giue vp a Terrier of the same to the Lord Bishops visitors, or some by them appointed, befoze the Wednesday after Easter next.

Patron.
Terrier.
Glebe.

Also you shall present the names of all such men, either Ministers or lay persons, who haue changed, vsurped, or inclosed any of the said glebe, or taken away any part of the building belonging to the Church, Parsonage, or Vicarage, or doe detaine from the Parson, or Vicar, any rites, glebe land, duties, or profits, which you know or haue heard haue belonged within the memorie of man vnto the Parsonage or Vicarage.

Articles.

Free Schoole
Hospitall
Church-re-
paires,&c.

3. Whether is there in your Parish any free Schoole, or any monies, rents, stocks, lands, or houses given to the maintenance of a Schoole, or of an Hospitall, or of the Poore, or of the Church, or the repaires thereof, or of a Preacher, or an Organist, or of any other thing for the maintenance or ornament of the service of God: whether are the said monies or lands, &c. so imploied as they were bequeathed, or whether are they detained or vsurped to any other vse, and by whom: you shall giue certificate hereof, if there be cause, vpon the day abouesaid.

Prophaners.

4. Whether haue your Church or Church-yard bene prophaned or abused with plaies, quarrels, fighting, scoulding, or ill words, or with feasts, Pedlars buying and selling, Courts, or any such like, and by whom; And whether haue any Trees bene cut downe in the Church-yard, and by whom?

Bookes.

Church parts.

5. Whether haue you in your Church or Chappell a large Bible, Bookes of Common Prayer; sufficient bookes of Homilies, Erasmus his Paraphrasis, Bishop Iewels woorkes, the booke of God and the King, a conuenient Pulpit, and a Pulpit-cloth, a decent seat for the Minister and Clarke, a Chest for the Registry to be kept in with three Keyes, whereof the Minister to haue one. Also a poore mans Box after the same manner, and whether is the Register-booke so witten, kept, perused, and certified as it ought?

Easter weeke.

6. Whether haue you a decent Font with a cover for Baptisme; and a decent Communion Table with two Couers, one of Silke, or some fine stufte, another of Linen; a faire Surplice, a communion silver Cup, and a Scope for the wine; sufficient Bels and Bel-ropes fit for ringing: And whether haue you had any necessaries or ornaments of your Church now fallen into decay, as Bels, Organes, or Chime, or a Clocke, or Lotts to sit in, maintenance for singing, or any such like: and by whom are any of these with-held, or taken away, or who haue defaced, broken downe, or taken away any decent ornaments in your Church?

7. Whether

Articles.

7. Whether are the names of sozaine Preachers, and their licenses registred: Have you the Booke of Canons of 1603. And doth your Minister reade them publicly once every yere. Preachers and Ministers.

8. Whether doth your Minister every Sunday and holiday, and on their Eues, sing or say distinctly in due time and place the Prayers and Service according to the booke of Common Prayer: Also on Wednesdaies and Fridaies, without addition, or omitting any thing. And whether doth he appoint holy-daies, fasting-dayes, and the Ember weekes: And whether doth he warne and keepe the perambulations:

9. Whether doth the Minister every Sunday and holy-day Catechize the youth, and vnmarried persons in the parish: Whether doth he vse any Catechisme other then that in the booke of Common prayer: if he doe, you shall befoze Wednesday in Easter weeke next, warne your Minister to bring his said Catechisme to the Lord Bishops visitors, or some appointed by them, that it may be perused: Also whether doth he admit any persons to the Communion, or to be Godfathers or Godmothers, or to be married, that cannot say the Catechisme, and who they were:

10. Whether haue you any Lecture or extraordinary Lecturers. Preaching by one or moze Preachers: Whether haue those Preachers or Preacher lawfull authority thereto from the Lord Bishop: what stipend they haue, and from whom: Whether doth the said Lecturer reade Prayers twice a yere at the least, and conforme himselfe to the Orders of the Church of England, according to the Canon:

11. Whether doe any Preachers that you know, or haue heard of, preach one against another, and whether doth your Minister obserue the late Orders or Articles appointed by his Maiestie for the edifying of the people, and auoiding of dangerous questions:

12. Whether doth your Minister or any other person in your Parish keepe any priuate meetings for prayers

Articles.

of teaching (other then with their owne Families) or any private Fasts or Exercises, or exercising to cast out Diuels without lawfull authoritie.

13. Whether doth your Minister vse the rites and ceremonies, and other orders appointed by the Lawes and Canons of the Church and Realme in the administering of the Sacraments and Service, as the Surplice, the Crosse in Baptisme, the Ring in marriage, and the rest?

14. Whether hath your Minister or any other in your Parish in their Sermons oppugned or spoken against the Doctrine, Orders, or Ceremonies of the Church of England, as against the Kings Supremacy, the government of the Church, the booke of Canons, the Communion booke, kneeling at Communion, Crosse in Baptisme, Surplice, Ring in marriage, the bowing at the name of Iesus, or any other of the Rites authorised? And whether are there any such that refuse or speake against the said Rites, receiued by the Minister to the Communion?

15. Whether doth the Minister warne and celebrate so many Communions that euery Parishioner may receiue thrice at least in the yeere?

16. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any popish Priests, Seminaries, or Iesuites intertained in your Parish, or any that suffer Masse, or any popish seruice in their houses, or that doe seduce the people from the Religion established, or doe speake euill of the same?

17. How many Benefices hath your Minister, and how farre distant? doth he serue your cure himselfe, and there diligently preach, or hath a sufficient Preacher for his Curate? what wages doth he allow to his Curate? Let the Minister himselfe also come with his Curate and signifie to the Lord Bishops Visitors what stipend he doth allow him.

18. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any Simony, which your Minister hath blessed, directly or indirectly,

Articles.

rectly, or any money which he gaue to his Patron or any other for his living?

19. If your Minister be not a Preacher, whether doth he procure monthly Sermons to be made by some able licensed Preacher: and whether doth he, when there is no Sermon, read the Homilies?

20. Whether doe you know, or haue heard of any married in your Church at the times prohibited, or not being thrice asked in the Church, or without a lawfull Licence, or in an unlawfull place, or houre, that is, not betwene eight and twelue of the clocke in the forenoone, or where the parties being vnder one and twenty yeeres of age, had not the consent of their parents?

21. Whether haue any beens married within the degrees forbidden, or in any Church which was not the Parish Church of one of the parties who were married?

22. What persons doe you know that come not diligently to Church on Sundaies and holydaies, or refuse or neglect to send their children to be catechised?

23. Whether doth your Minister visit the sicke, or refuse to goe and comfort them, or to minister the Communion to them, or to baptise a childe that is in danger?

24. If you haue any Chappels of ease in your Parish, whether doe the inhabitants resort once a yeere at the least to the Parish church to receiue the communion?

25. Whether doth your Minister weare decent and graue apparell: whether doth he resort to Tauerne, or Alehouses, or any unlawfull games: or doth he vse any seruile labour, as carting, plowing, &c.

26. Whether is your Minister peaceable and a peace-maker, and whether doth he abet any suits or contentions amongst his neighbours, or trouble, sue, or present them for vaine and triviall causes?

27. Whether doth the Minister warne and celebrate the daies of the Kings beginning of his reigne, and the fift of August, and the fift of Nouember, for his Majesties happy deliuerance: And whom do you know in your Parish

Articles.

Parish that refuse to celebrate them: and whether is your Minister absent above fourescore dayes in the yere from his charge?

Ecclesiasticall
Courts.

28. Whether doe you know that any ecclesiasticall Judge, or any of the Registers, or Apparatozs, or any other Officer belonging to the Ecclesiasticall Courts, haue taken rewards or gifts for peruerting iustice, or denied Iustice to any man who lawfully required the same?

29. Whether doe you know or haue heard that any of the said Judges, or Registers, or any belonging to the said Courts doe fauour any Papists or popish Recusants, or non-conformitants, or Brownists, Anabaptists, or any other Sectaries, or doe forbear to enquire, cite, denounce, and censure them?

30. Whether haue the said Ecclesiasticall Judges appointed and constituted certaine and determined Surrogates and substitutes, being Batchelors of Diuinitie, Batchelors of the Law, or at the least Masters of Arts, and graue licensed Preachers; or doe they appoint weake and insufficient men in their owne absences?

31. Whether hath your Archdeacon, or any for him, biewed your Church, Chappell, and other buildings mentioned in the five first Articles?

32. Whether hath the Chancellour, Commissaries, or any vsing Ecclesiastical Iurisdiction vpon the presentment or information giuen vnto him of any foule offences or scandals in your Parish, not punished the persons detected, so that the Congregation hath not bene satisfied both of Iustice, and the amendment of the partie, and who where the parties committing the said offences, as Incest, Adulterie, Fornication, Drunkenness, Blasphemy, Heresie, clandestine mariage, prophaning of the Church, or such like?

33. Whether hath the said Chancelloz, Commissaries, or any other Ecclesiasticall Judge committed the penance of any such delinquents to pay a summe of money,

Articles.

ney, and how much of the said money haue you knowne to be sent, distributed, or imployed to the poore, or to any other charitable vses in your Parish?

34. Whether are your Ecclesiasticall courts kept at conuenient times and places, and whether is any man cited out of his owne Jurisdiction?

35. Whether doe the Ecclesiasticall Judges suffer any persons detected for crimes to sue and molest the Churchwardens (who detected them) for the same.

36. Whether doe you know or haue heard that any of the said Judges, in case, when the deceased dies without a will, haue assigned or taken part of the goods to charitable vses, and how haue you knowne them so imployed?

37. Whether in such case of any dying without a Will, doth the Ecclesiasticall Judge send out intimation to summon the creditors, kindred, wife and children to come take administration, and committed the same, not to needy persons, but to able men, and such as enter sufficient bond to preserve the estate, and answer all that is due, and saue the Lord Bishop harmelesse?

38. Whether doth the said Judge Ecclesiasticall, when a Benefice is vacant, commit sequestration to able men that doe answer and account truly for the maine profits? And whether are the Parishes, during the vacancy well serued with able Ministers?

39. Whether doe you know, or haue credibly heard, that the said Judges Ecclesiasticall, Registers, or Appraisors doe take any extraordinary or more fees for probate of wills, Administrations, accounts, assignations of portions, or citations, then are allowed by the statutes of the Land, or any fees greater then heretofore haue bene accustomed in other busineses belonging to their courts?

40. Whether doe you know, or haue heard, that any Register of the said Courts haue sped any act or dismissed any person detected without the knowledge

Articles.

and actuell consent of the Judge :

41. Whether doe the Registers in the said Courts professe the Religion of the Church of England? Whether doe they orderly receive the holy communion; and whether are they of honest, sober, and godly conversation?

42. Whether doe the said Registers keepe sufficient Scribes and servants, who are publique Notaries, to make Acts, and keepe the Courts: whether doe they allow them sufficient meanes to live, or suffer them to take, or exact monies of suitors for expedition?

43. Whether is there in every place where Ecclesiasticall Courts are kept, and also in the Registry of every such Office or Court, a Table of Fees set up, that every one may read the same containing all the Fees that every Officer of the Court ought to take according to the Canon made at the Convocation under Archbishop Whirgust, Anno Dom. 1599.

44. Whether are there more Apparators belonging to the Courts then heretofore were accustomed? Whether doe any of the Apparators buy or take to farme their Offices or the execution of the same?

45. Whether doth any person in your knowledge, or as you have heard, take upon him to execute both the places of Judge and Registry, directly or indirectly?

46. Whether are there any in your Parish who occupy or enjoy any goods of any man deceased, not having proved his Will, or taken Administration of his goods where there was no Will made?

Schoolemaster.

47. Whether have you any Schoolemaster or Usher in your Parish who is not licensed by the Ordinary, and is not of sound Religion and honest conversation?

48. Whether doth the Schoolemaster catechise his Schollers in the grounds of Religion; cause them discretely to behaue themselves in the Church on Sundays and Holidais, and take an account of their learning

Articles.

ning both in godlinesse and in other studies?

49. Whether is your Parish Clarke aboute twenty
yeres of age, and sufficient for his place, able distinctly Parish Clarke.
to reade the first Lesson and to sing, and diligent in his
office?

50. Whether the Clarke or any person not authori-
sed meddle aboute his place, as to reade Prayers, bury
the dead, Church women, and such like?

51. Whether doth the Clarke or Sexton keepe cleane
the Church, ring the Bells, attend the buriall of the
dead, and other things belonging to their places?

52. Whether doe all the Parishioners pay their ac-
customable wages and duties to the Clark and Sexton,
and what be their names that refuse?

53. Whether are there any in your Parish who im-
pugne, speake, print, publish or keepe any books against
the Kings supremacy, the Articles of Religion of 1562.
or against the present government of the Church?

54. Whether doe any on Sundaies or Holidaies, Negligence in
especially in the time of diuine Seruice or Sermon, diuine Ser-
mispend the time in Alehouses, vnlawfull games, idle- uice.
nesse or labour; or who doe not reuerently behaue them-
selues in the Church: or vse talking, walking, or any
other vncomely behauiour then or there?

55. Whether haue any aboute seuentene yeres of
age not receiued thrice in the yere the Communion, or
doe refuse (being vnmarrried people) to be catechised?

56. Whether haue any bene married their former Marriage.
husbands or wiues being aliue, although they were di-
uorced from them? or doe any man or woman liue from
their husbands or wiues?

57. Whether hath any man abused your Minister by
blowes or vnreuerent speeches, or beaten, or railed on
any man in the Church or Churchyard?

58. Whether are there in your Parish any Popish,
Anabaptistickall, Wictonist, or other Recusant, or non

Articles.

communicant, or who labour to pervert others to their opinions :

59. Whether doe any forreiner of other Parishes resort to your Church to Service or Communion, or doe any of your Parish accustom to goe to other Churches, and neglect their owne :

Enormities.

60. Whether are there in your Parish any incestuous Adulterers, Fornicators, Bawds, conueiours or intertainers of incontinent persons, or who are famed or suspected for the same :

61. Whether are there in your Parish any blasphemers, common swearers, or such as vse to speake bawdy, immodest and filthy speeches, malicious slanderers, scolds, drunkards, or any defamed for the same, or any that make signe, or publish libels, or defamations against any :

Sessments.

62. Whether doe any refuse their sessments to the repaires and ordinary charges of the Church, although they dwell without the Parish, having goods or lands within it.

63. Whether haue any in your Parish abused the Churchwardens or Sidemen for doing their duties :

Witches.

64. Whether doe you know any men or women suspected for Coniurers, Witches, Sorcerers, or that vse any unlawfull or enchanting prayers, or charmes in writing or otherwise, to hurt or heale man or beast; and what are their names, and who resort vnto them for helpe or counsell :

Physicians.
Surgeons.

65. Whether are there in your Parish any that practise Physicke or Chirurgerie without licence, and who are they : You shall also warne all that haue licenses from the Lord Bishop, or his predecessors, or any of his officers to come shew them to his visitors to haue their Licenses seene and allowed.

Excommunicates.

66. Whether doe any in your Parish conuerse with wilfull excommunicate persons : what excommunicate persons haue been buried in the Church or Churchyard :

67. Whether

Articles.

67. Whether are there in your Parish any notorious Usurers.

68. Whether doe you know or haue heard of any that obserue not the abstinence or fasts (by the lawes and canons commanded, and warned in the Church) of the time of Lent, Ember weekes, Fridaies and Saturdaies and holy day eues. Fasting-daies

69. Whether are your Churchwardens according to order and lawfully chosen? whether are the old Churchwardens accounted for what they receiued, to the Minister and Parish: And whether doe they and the Sidemen meete to conferre of these present or any former Articles giuen them in charge, to make true presentments, or haue wilfully omitted to present knowne or famed offenders? Churchwardens.

70. Whether doe the Churchwardens take and gather twelue pence for euery Sunday of Recusants, excommunicate persons, and others who come not to Church, and distribute it to the poore:

71. You shall also enquire whether heretofore you haue had a Parson or Vicar indowed, and whether there haue bene any such in your memory, or as you haue heard from your neighbours or ancestors. And that now your Church is serued by a Curate, squestratour or stipendary, and who doth receiue the fruits, and pay the Curate his wages:

72. You shall also enquire of all other faults, not in these Articles expessed, punishable by the Ecclesiastical lawes, and present them.

These



These things are to be exhibited by the Church-
wardens and Sidemen at or before the Wednesday
in Easter weeke.

A Terrioꝝ of glebe Land belonging to the Parso-
nage oꝝ Vicarage : And who is Patron of the
Living :

Also what Lands, Rents, Stockes, oꝝ monies haue
beene giuen foꝝ the maintenance of the Church, oꝝ Poore,
oꝝ Schoole, oꝝ other pious vse.

The Catechisme, if any be taught by the Minister,
besides that in the Booke of Common Prayer.

F f N f S.

